

## **Uptown run changes from March to April**

The 21st Borden Uptown Run & Trolley Walk has changed its 2007 date to April 7 at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas. The race historically has been in March.

However, because the 2007 IAAF World Cross Country Championships are scheduled March 24 in Mombasa, Kenya, the original date would have made it difficult for Uptown to have attracted elite runners for its Invitational 8K, which offers a \$10,000 bonus for an 8K record. Also, the Carlsbad 5000 is April 1 in California, and that event typically draws several international elites, and Uptown hopes to attract many of them, race director Tom Short said.

"This puts us in prime position to capture more world elites coming off those two races," he said. "We're sure many of these athletes will come to our 2007 Invitational before departing from the States. Past performances on our Invitational course and our cash purse already placed us on the international radar screen of the elite athletes and coaches around the world. We want Sammy Kipketer back for sure, but we are going after athletes of the same caliber who can push him in the later stages of the race. We want to push him nine seconds faster....I am confident the record will go down in Dallas."

Last year, Kipketer ran a course-record 22:12, which was nine seconds off the world record.

### **Uptown fastest for 2006**

The Borden Uptown Invitational 8K owned the fastest times in the world for 2006, race director Tom Short said. The Association for Road Racing Statisticians, in fact, has the Dallas race with the top three fastest men's times and the fastest women's time in the world at the 8K distance for 2006.

Sammy Kipketer of Kenya won the Invitational in March with a 22:12. Following him were two other Kenyans, Abraham Chebii (22:18) and Shadrack Kosgie (22:29). Alevtina Ivanova of Russia won the women's race in 25:16.

Short said he believes Uptown to have the fastest course for an 8K because the always-fast Crazy Eights in Kingsport, Tenn., has been changed. Short said the course now has more turns, which should make it slower. Short used a design of the Crazy Eights' old course to make the Uptown route, which has 10 turns and is flat.

Uptown, which has changed its date from March to April for 2007, offers a \$10,000 bonus for a men's and/or women's world record. The record is 22:02.2, set by Peter Githuka of Kenya. He set that in 1996 at Kingsport.